

Blue Hills Complex Resource Management Plan



DCR Public Meeting
Thursday, November 10, 2016 - 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Sharon Public Library



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

Charles D. Baker

Lieutenant Governor

Karyn E. Polito

Energy and Environmental Secretary

Matthew A. Beaton

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

Leo Roy

DCR Mission Statement

To protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well being of all



Tonight's Presentation



Honorable Marie-Louise Kehoe Park

- RMP Requirements
- Blue Hills Complex RMP Schedule
- Overview of Draft RMP
 - Existing Conditions
 - Recommendations
- Public Input



Blue Hills Reservation

RMP Requirements

Management plans are prepared for “all reservations, parks, and forests under the management of the department”

M.G.L. Chapter 21; Section 2F



Borderland State Park

RMPs Shall ...



Lt Arthur E. Farnham, Jr. and TSgt Thomas M. Connolly, Jr.
Memorial Park

“include guidelines for the operation and land stewardship of... reservations, parks and forests”

“provide for the protection and stewardship of natural and cultural resources”

“ensure consistency between recreation, resource protection and sustainable forest management”

M.G.L. Chapter 21; Section 2F

Blue Hills Complex

RMP Schedule

Date	Action
October 28, 2015	Public meeting
October 29 – November 27, 2015	Public input period
December 2015 – August 2016	Plan preparation and internal review
August 2016 – October 2016	Revision of internal draft RMP
October 25, 2016	Release of public draft RMP
November 10, 2016	Public meeting
November 11 – December 12, 2016	Public comment period
Fall 2016	Revision of draft RMP
Winter 2017	Submit to Stewardship Council
Winter 2017	Stewardship Council vote
Winter 2017	Final draft of RMP posted to web

Blue Hills Complex



Existing Conditions:



Natural Resources



Cultural Resources



Recreation



Infrastructure



Interpretation



Management Resources



Management Practices

Recommendations

Recommendations Must:

- “Ensure consistency between recreation, resource protection and sustainable forest management”
- Address one or more of the following:
 - Regulatory compliance or compliance with legal agreement
 - Threats to the health and safety of park visitors and employees
 - Imminent loss of a natural, cultural, or recreation resource



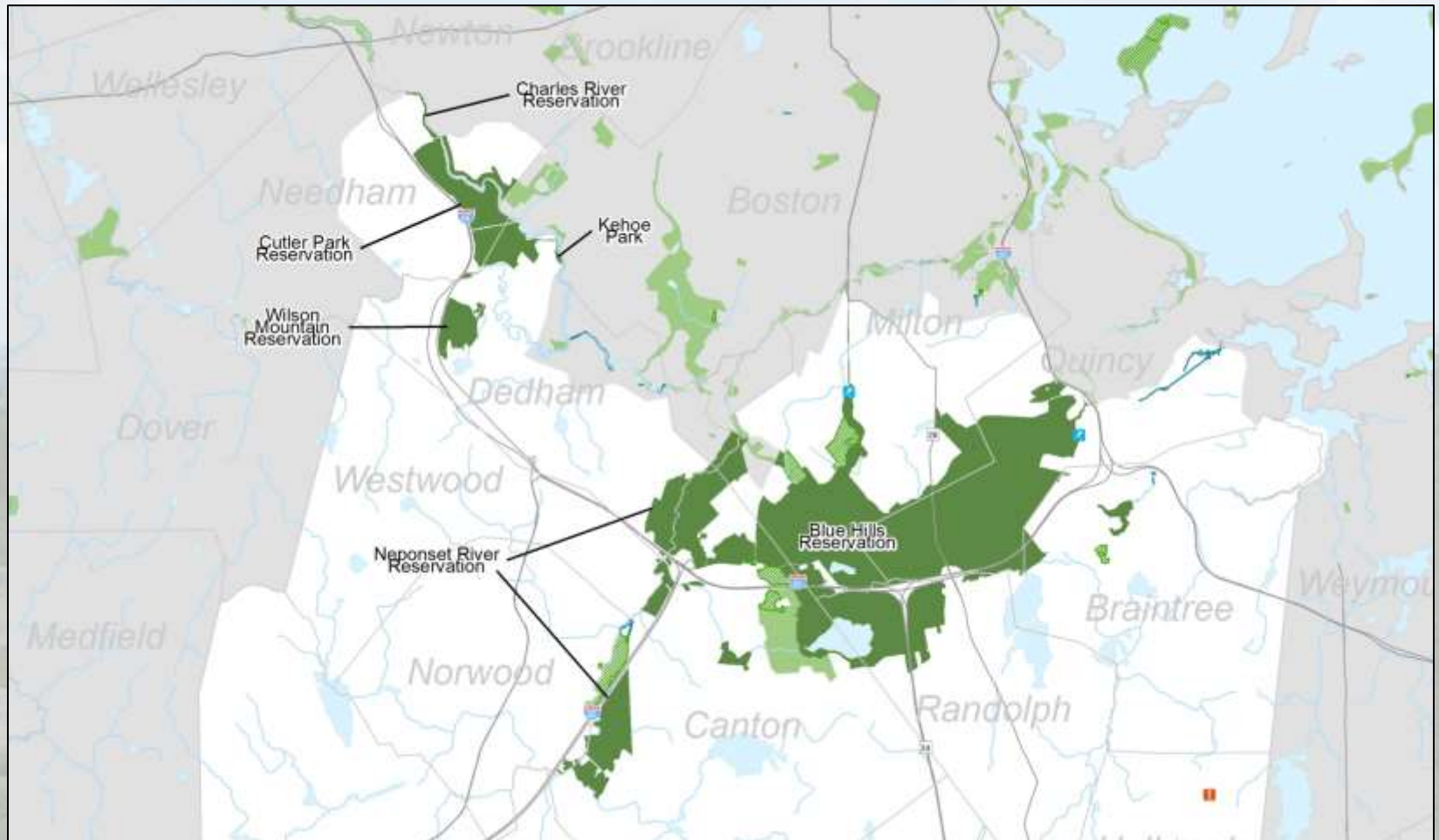
F. Gilbert Hills State Forest



Wilson Mountain Reservation



Blue Hills Reservation & Associated Properties



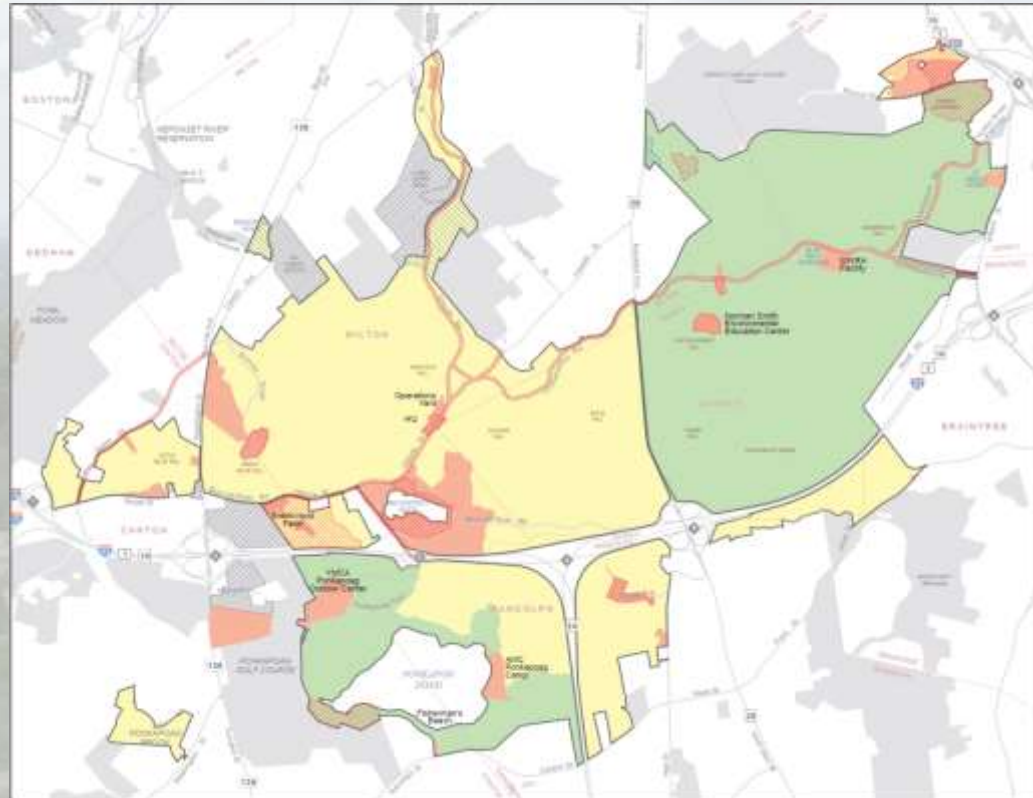
Blue Hills Reservation & Associated Properties: Existing Conditions

	BLUE HILLS	CUTLER PARK	WILSON MOUNTAIN	NEPONSET RIVER
Area:	5,782	772	214	1,298
Landscape Designation:	Parkland	Parkland	Parkland	Parkland
Management:	DCR	DCR	DCR	DCR
Rare Species:	19	4	0	7
Cultural Resources:	155	49	8	4
Recreation:	Biking Dog Walking Hiking Hunting Nature Study Swimming	Biking Dog Walking Fishing Hiking Tennis	Dog Walking Hiking	Biking Canoeing Dog Walking Fishing Hiking
Staffing:				
Year-Round	10	0	0	0
Seasonal	36	0	0	0

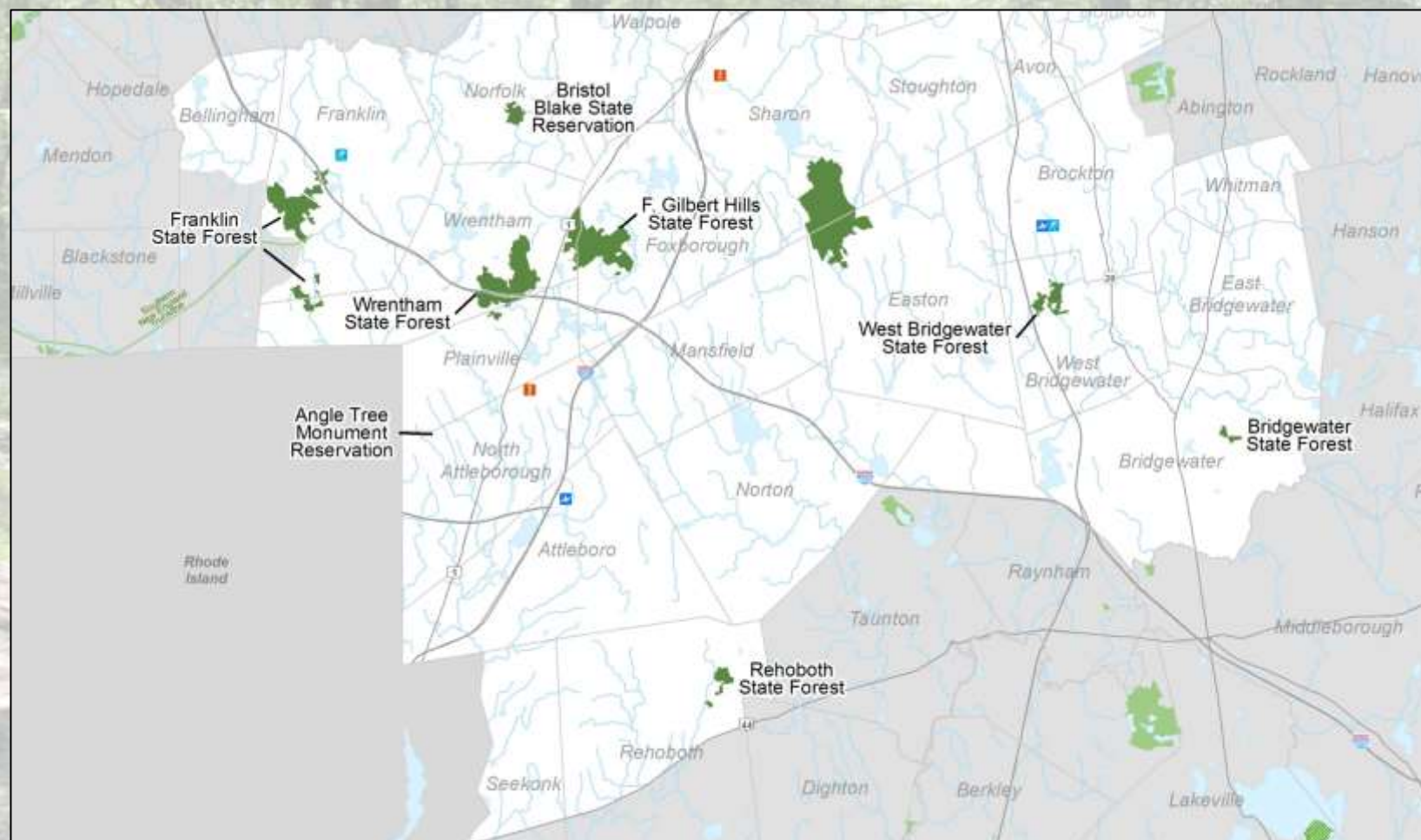
Blue Hills Reservation: Recommendations

Management Recommendations

- 207 in 2011 RMP
- 50 implemented, in progress, or no longer relevant.
- 31 meet current prioritization criteria, including:
 - Reduce trail user conflicts.
 - Work with State Police to develop a speed enforcement plan.
- 8 new recommendations, such as:
 - Implement recommendations for the Eliot Bridge and Pavilion.
 - Implement structural repairs to the west wall of the Brian T. Broderick Stables.



F. Gilbert Hills State Forest & Associated Properties



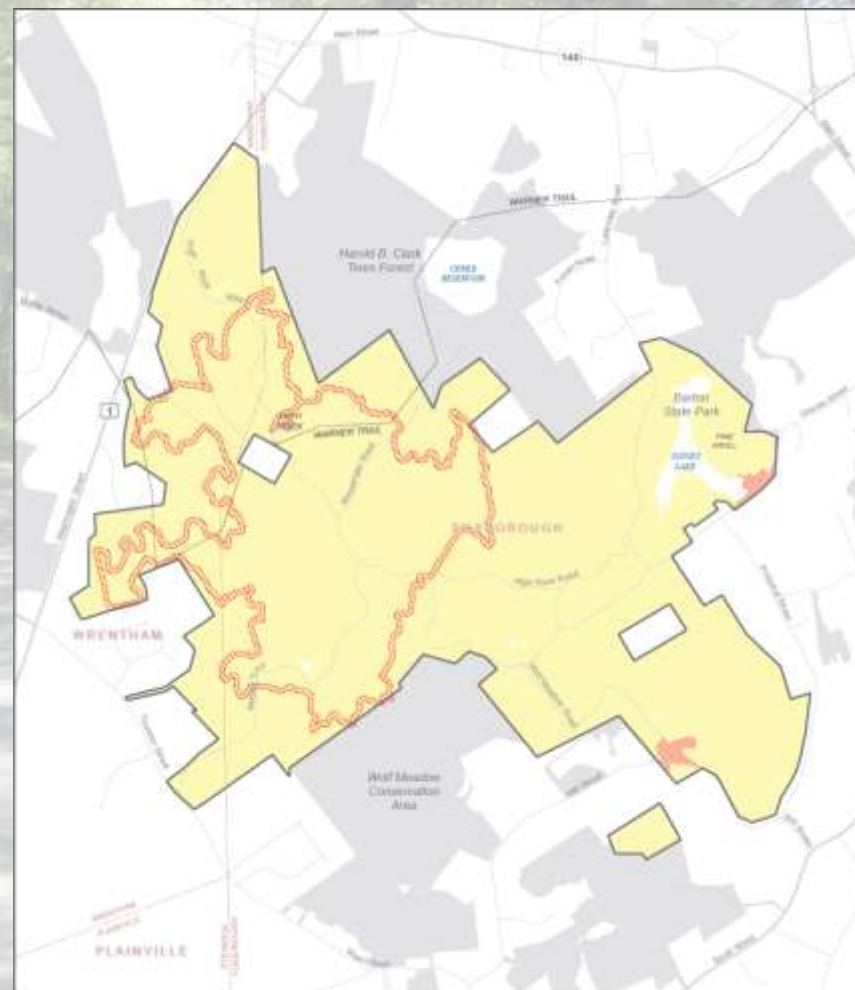
F. Gilbert Hills State Forest & Associated Properties: Existing Conditions

	F. G. HILLS	BRISTOL BLAKE	FRANKLIN	WRENTHAM	REHOBOTH	WEST BRIDGEWATER	BRIDGEWATER
Area:	1,037	140	875	968	140	246	61
Landscape Designation:	Woodland	Parkland	Parkland	Parkland	Woodland	Parkland	Parkland
Management:	DCR	DCR MAS	DCR	DCR	DCR	DCR MassWildlife	DCR
Rare Species:	1	1	1	2	0	3	0
Cultural Resources:	28	13	9	2	6	1	1
Recreation:	Biking Fishing Hiking Hunting OHV	Nature Study	Biking Hiking Hunting OHV	Biking Hiking Hunting OHV	Biking Hiking Hunting	Biking Fishing Hiking Hunting	Hunting
Staffing:							
Year-Round	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seasonal	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

F. Gilbert Hills State Forest: Recommendations

Management Recommendations

- Address voids in embankment, trees growth, and other deficiencies of Sunset Lake Dam.
- Implement recommendations contained in *Rapid Assessment and Trail System Recommendations* report. (See Appendix J of RMP.)
- Update agreements with partner organizations.
- Update bathrooms to enhance accessibility.



[illegible]

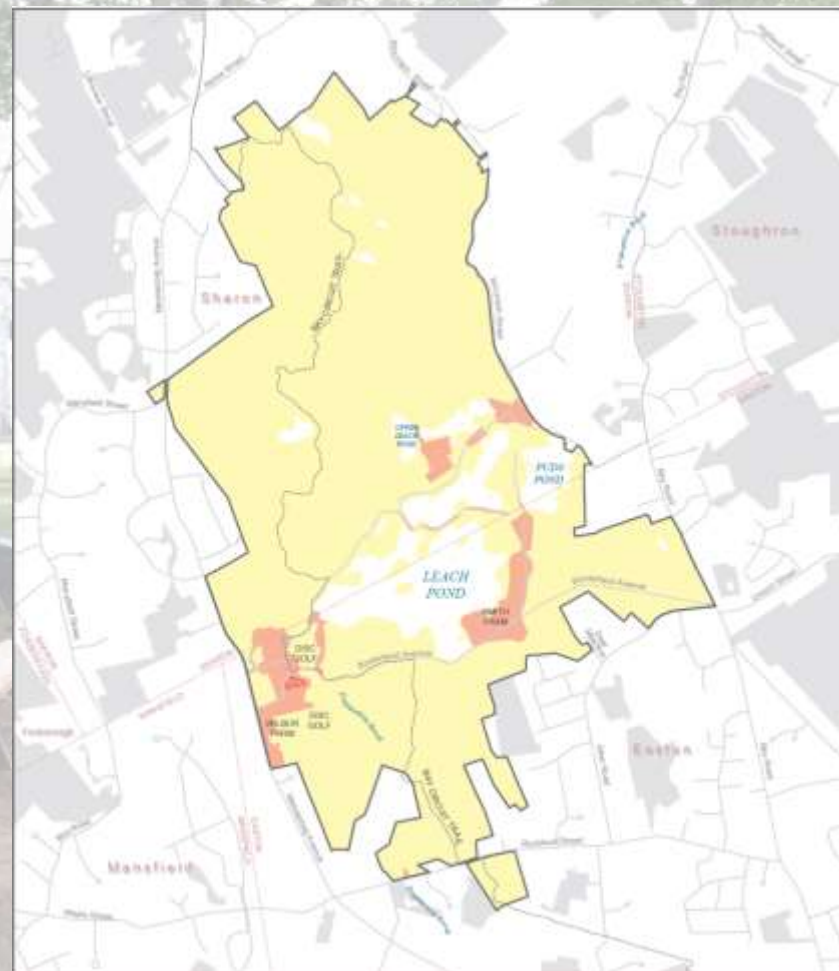
Borderland State Park: Existing Conditions

Area (Acres):	1,843
Landscape Designation:	Parkland
Management:	DCR
Rare Species:	4
Cultural Resources:	46
Recreation:	Biking Disc Golf Dog Walking Fishing Hiking Tennis
Staffing:	
Year-Round	2
Seasonal	5

Borderland State Park: Recommendations

Management Recommendations

- Provide ongoing maintenance, upkeep of historic landscaping, oversight of activities, and security at Ames Mansion.
- Develop and implement guidance on management activities for all dams and dikes.
- Establish and/or update agreements with partners.
- Require all new trail projects to undergo review and approval using the DCR Trail Proposal and Evaluation Form.



Public Comment

General Guidelines

- Please state:
 - Name
 - Affiliation (if any), and
 - Name of property on which you are commenting
- To assist us, please make comments in the context of what resources or issues DCR should address in the RMP.



Public Comments due by December 12, 2016

For more information:

Web: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/public-meetings/>

Send your comments and suggestions to:

On-line: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/submit-public-comments/>

U.S. Mail: Department of Conservation and Recreation
Office of Public Outreach
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

PLEASE NOTE: Public comments submitted to DCR may be posted on the DCR website in their entirety, and no information, including personal information, will be redacted.

Thank You for Participating



Cutler Park Reservation